California Drought Response

THE POOL, HOT TUB & SPA INDUSTRY TOOLKIT

Resources to Help Defend Our Industry





The pool, spa and hot tub industry is not part of the drought problem, but it can absolutely be part of the solution.

The resources provided in this toolkit are designed to help you fight water use restrictions that will negatively impact our industry. Inside you will find talking points, facts on water use, water conservation messaging and consumer materials you can share with your customers to encourage them to be proper stewards of this precious resource.

How You Can Help:

- 1. **Be proactive!** Call your city council member or city manager and inquire if the city has or is going to consider implementing water use restrictions on the use of public water for swimming pools or spas. Ask for a copy of the ordinance or proposed ordinance.
- 2. Know your facts. Use the materials in this toolkit to arm yourself with facts around water usage of pools, hot tubs and spas. Be prepared to make the argument that restrictions on this industry are detrimental in many ways and do not account for measurable water savings.
- 3. **Spread the word.** Notify CPSA that the city is considering or has already acted on a local ordinance if it includes restrictions on new swimming pools, spas and hot tubs.
- 4. Join the coalition. Become a member of PHTA and CPSA and learn more about ways you can get involved to defend our industry.









THE POOL & SPAINDUSTRY: Part of the Drought Solution

California is experiencing one of the most severe droughts in history, and water use restrictions are already in place impacting industries across the state. In the past, municipalities and water districts have included bans on filling new or remodeled pools in their drought response regulations, but this is not the answer.

We need your help to spread the word that the pool and spa industry is part of the drought solution.

The Facts:

One: Pools and spas are not water wasters.

Properly maintained pools and spas are actually incredibly water conscious compared to the lawns they often replace, saving on average 12,000 gallons in the first year, and 30,000 gallons each subsequent year.

Two: The pool & spa industry is critical to California's economy.

In 2020, the pool & spa industry contributed more than \$5 billion and nearly 95,000 jobs to the state economy. Pool construction alone employs local residents and requires permit fees and employee payroll taxes to be paid, all of which stimulate local economies.

Three: Pool & spa owners can practice water conservation with measurable results.

There are simple things pool and spa owners can do to conserve water while still enjoying their backyard retreat, such as utilizing covers, limiting splashing and checking for leaks.

Get Involved:

As an industry professional, there are plenty of ways for you to get involved and help defend our industry from devastating regulations. Join the coalition by becoming a member of PHTA and CPSA and enjoy access to resources, education and materials.

Donate:

We also urge you to donate to our drought defense fund, enabling us to continue our outreach and advocacy.

Spread the Word:

Help us spread the word about this important initiative by sharing our content with your customers.









For more information, visit:

phta.org cpsa.phta.org www.LetsPoolTogether.com

/LetsPoolTogether @PoolTogetherCA

Our business is your business, and we must all "pool together" to protect it for generations to come.

THE POOL & HOT TUB ALLIANCE Encourages Water Conservation

Some people might think that owning a pool or hot tub flies in the face of efforts to conserve water, but in fact, pool and hot tub consumers and industry professionals are some of the most conservation-conscious people around when it comes to preserving this precious natural resource.

To help educate both consumers and industry professionals about water conservation, the Pool & Hot Tub Alliance has released a research article featuring facts on recreational water usage and conservation tips for pool and spa owners.

"Water is precious. We need to make sure we have enough and the reality is, we can — small changes can add up to big savings if each of us does his or her part," said Alice Cunningham, co-owner of Olympic Hot Tub Company in Seattle, who wrote the article along with Kathleen Carlson, co-owner of AquaQuip and a member of the PHTA Retailers Council.

Members of the PHTA are strong advocates for water conservation. As the world's largest international trade association representing the swimming pool, spa, hot tub and recreational water industry, PHTA and its members are in the business of using water for health, recreation and relaxation, so it's especially important to them that water remains abundant and accessible for all.

The article offers facts on household water use, as well as tips for making the most of pool and/or spa water. Some examples include:

- Properly maintained spa water needs to be replaced only two or three times a year and can be reused for landscape watering when drained. In a pool, one filling lasts for decades and is only necessary when repairs require it.
- Baths use water once, but a spa offers four to six months of use for the same water. Taking just five baths at normal tub size uses enough water to fill a typical 400-gallon spa.

ET'S POOL OGETHER







THE POOL & HOT TUB ALLIANCE Encourages Water Conservation

- A jetted or whirlpool bathtub used twice a week consumes 240 gallons. In just four months, these tubs use about the same amount of water as most pools use in an entire season.
- A good spa or pool cover can reduce evaporation and water waste by 95 percent.
- Spas manufactured in the last five years use new technology that keeps water clean much longer.

"The pool and spa industry is committed to water conservation," Carlson said. "We're educating our customers on how they can protect this vital resource by making a few simple changes in how they use water."

"For pool and spa professionals, **water conservation goes beyond our individual companies**," Cunningham said. "We may be competitors in the marketplace, but we've joined together to raise public awareness for this important issue."

For more information, visit www.PHTA.org, telephone 703.838.0083, or write to PHTA, 2111 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA, 22314.











Message points that demonstrate that pools are not "water wasters"

The message points below can be used in your company literature to demonstrate that pools are not water wasters. In fact, pools are beneficial to society as minireservoirs that collect rainwater and store a precious water supply throughout the entire year. They can be used as an emergency water supply to fight fires. Also, they can serve as an "oasis" to the people who use them during hot and dry times. And they have a huge economic impact on the community—contributing billions of dollars to the American economy each year.

In times of drought, myths about swimming pools have been created and disseminated by groups or individuals who want to take focus away from issues that have to do with the actual uses of water. This sometimes has resulted in severe rationing of swimming pool water. It's important that knowledge and facts replace the myths and emotion that have governed water politics in the past. While it takes more than 10,000 gallons of water to grow and process food for a backyard barbecue for four people, a swimming pool actually uses less water than a patch of grass of the same surface area. What is needed, therefore, is a more rational approach to the allocation of water. In the state of California, for example, the fact is that 85 percent of its developed water supplies are used by agriculture, while 10 percent are devoted to personal use, and the remaining 5 percent are used for industrial and commercial purposes. If agricultural water use in that state were reduced from 85-percent to 80 percent through conservation measures, the amount of water available for domestic and commercial uses would increase by one third. (Source: "Facts emerge from drought," by columnist Dan Walters, The Sacramento Bee, March 20, 1991.)

In the past, drought emergencies have led to discussions of bans and restrictions on the construction or filling of swimming pools and spas But conservation measures, such as the use of covers in reducing water evaporation, and water-saving measures, such as less -frequent backwashing, show that pools and spas can serve as reservoirs and emergency containers of water—rather than being the targets of water-use restrictions. And studies have demonstrated the pool and spa industry's economic role in a local community, as well as the economic effects of proposed bans and restrictions on water use for pools and spas. For example, in a community where 800 new pools are built annually at an average









cost of \$20,000 each, about 33 percent of that \$16 million (which comes to more than \$5 million) represents wages of approximately 400 workers that contribute to the local economy. In this same market, about 12 percent of the new pools will be serviced by pool technicians, leading to 96 service contracts. And the new pools will support 456 workers in distribution and retail operations for pool-related products. Obviously, restricting or banning pool construction or the filling of pools would affect the community at large. The taxes paid by these businesses and wage earners, as well as the amount of money they spend as consumers in the local economy, would certainly be affected by a water-use ban — or even the mere discussion of filling restrictions. If potential pool buyers wonder whether their pool can get filled, they might change their plans — and such changes will hurt the construction industry, thereby affecting the community. (*Source: "Strategies for the Water Wars," by Jim McCloskey, Pool & Spa News, May 8, 1989.*)

Did you know that a swimming pool uses substantially less water than comparable landscaped and planted areas such as lawn? That's the conclusion reached by an analysis of water use in swimming pools that was based on studies prepared by the City of Sacramento for use by the California SPEC (California Spa & Pool Industry Energy, Codes and Legislative Council). The study concluded that lawn irrigation use equals 49 inches per year and that swimming pool requirements are 39.6 inches per year, less walkway and decking areas equal to the actual pool area, which reduces total pool water use to 20 inches per year. (Source: "Analysis of Water Use in Swimming Pools" by Gail Bash, General Manager, Arcade Water District, Sacramento, California. For a copy of the "Analysis Of Water Use in Swimming Pools" document, click HERE.)

Did you know that normal evaporation does not cause substantial water loss or necessitate constant refilling of a swimming pool? While evaporation occurs in every body of water, the rate of evaporation is determined by a set of variable factors including: air temperature, level of humidity, water temperature and wind velocity. Most of the variables change as the seasons change or as the sun rises and sets. Therefore, higher rates of evaporation take place when the difference between air and water temperatures are greatest ... in the Spring or Fall, and/or at night. Industry experts have determined, after many years of servicing swimming pools, that water loss through evaporation over a 15-week swimming season "averages" 1/8 of an inch of water per day per pool. In an 18'X 36' pool this evaporation loss is 50.5 gallons per day or 5,302.5 gallons for the season (about the same amount of water that a family of four uses for brushing their teeth during the same period of time). The industry is taking steps to educate the pool-owning public to reduce evaporation loss







through the use of solid pool covers, solar pool covers, or other devices when pools are not in use. This effort could reduce total evaporation rates by almost 50% since the pools would be covered at the times when the evaporation rate is the highest. (Source: Northeast Spa & Pool Association - APSP Affiliate)

- Did you know that the use of water in swimming pools and spas is negligible compared to any water district's annual water consumption? That's what research has shown, according to California SPEC (California Spa & Pool Industry Energy, Codes and Legislative Council). A SPEC research project in the Santa Clara Valley district showed that if 800 pools were built in a typical year and each were filled with 20,000 gallons of water, the 16 million gallons needed for initial filling of those pools would only comprise 4.5% of one day's average water use. This means that all the water needed to fill all the new pools in the area would equal just one hour of typical public water use for this water district. (Source: "Strategies for the Water Wars," by Jim McCloskey, Pool & Spa News, May 8, 1989.)
- Did you know that swimming pools are not completely drained each year? Swimming pools, both inground and aboveground, require water to maintain structural integrity. Therefore, a large quantity of water remains in each pool over the winter. Only a minimal amount of water is removed from each pool to expedite Winterization. Little or no water is removed from aboveground pools. The average amount of water drained from an inground pool for Winterization is 6 inches. Assuming the average size inground pool is 18' X 36', this means that a quantity of 2,400 gallons is drained. Of course, the quantity varies as the pool size varies. (Source: Northeast Spa & Pool Association APSP Affiliate)
- Did you know that the municipal water supply is not the only source that can be used to "top off' a residential pool (raise the water level to a normal operating level)
 - Pools covered with mesh safety covers have accumulated enough water from rain, snow and ice to be opened without additional municipal water.
 - The water collected on top of solid pool covers can be filtered and placed in the pool.
 - Additionally, the home's downspouts can be extended to the edge of the pool to enable rainwater to augment water already in the pool.
 - Water can be brought by truck from other areas.

(Source: Northeast Spa & Pool Association - APSP Affiliate)

Pools collect rain water and therefore can serve as mini-reservoirs. (Source: APSP)





- A pool owner can serve his or her local fire department in times of drought. This is another way that the pool can act as a reservoir and a pool owner can feel an added benefit in his or her pool; giving back to the community. The sample of a Pool Owner's Fire Protection Agreement (this bolded text is hyperlinked – click on it) provided here can be used to enter into an agreement with your local fire department, so that they may pump water from your pool in the case of a fire in your neighborhood. This agreement is an incentive for officials to see pools as a benefit in times of drought. (Source: APSP)
- Put water use into perspective. Did you know that it takes over 10,000 gallons of water to grow and process the food for a basic barbecue for four people, most of which would provide for the feed for two pounds of beef? (Source: "Facts emerge from drought," by columnist Dan Walters, The Sacramento Bee, March 20, 1991.)
- Did you know that backwashing only occurs about once every two weeks and the frequency of backwashing depends on how much debris is captured in the filter? Backwashing a sand or pressure d.e. filter is required only when the actual operating pressure of the filter exceeds the normal operating pressure by 10 p.s.i. (pounds per square inch) or more. The rise in operating pressure is a normal result of the filter media capturing particles of solid matter in the pool water. Therefore, the frequency of backwashing is based on filter operation, not a pre-set schedule. Industry experts have determined that the "normal" pool is backwashed about once every two weeks. It takes about five minutes or less to backwash and rinse a filter system. During this time, the outflow of water is dependent upon the size of the pool's pump and the filter media surface area, this could range from 10 gallons per minute on the smallest aboveground pool to 60 gallons per minute on large inground pools. Therefore, the water "lost" during backwash ranges from 50 to 300 gallons every two weeks or 375 gallons to 2,250 gallons for the entire swimming season. No backwash water is used from_pools equipped with diatomaceous earth filters with separation tanks or with cartridge flters. (Source: Northeast Spa & Pool Association - APSP Affiliate)
- Pools help people cool off from heat. During hot weather people are more susceptible to heat exhaustion, heat stroke and other heat -related illnesses. Keeping cool, drinking water and avoiding excessive exhertion are ways to limit these health problems. (Source: APSP)
- People who use swimming pools take fewer showers and baths and thus conserve water. (Source: APSP)









TALKING POINTS

The Pool, Spa & Hot Tub Industry is Part of the Drought Solution

- The pool and spa industry understands the drastic situation we're in. We
 know that every industry is going to have to share the pain, but water use
 restrictions on the pool, spa and hot tub industry are merely symbolic they
 do not contribute to measurable water savings, and they do not have any
 impact on the drought.
- The California Pool & Spa Association and the Pool & Hot Tub Alliance are teaming up to relaunch their awareness campaign, "Let's Pool Together," designed to educate pool owners and others about ways they can save water.

Pools, Spas & Hot Tubs are not Water Wasters

- The use of water in swimming pools and spas is negligible compared to any water district's annual water consumption.
- A well-maintained pool or hot tub uses significantly less water per day than the irrigated lawn it often replaces, not including the decking that often accompanies pools.
- On average, hot tub water use comes out to less than 3 gallons per day, or just 1% of total household water consumption.
- Hot tubs are incredibly water-conscious; water can be reused for lawns and landscaping
- Imposing severe water restrictions on pool and spa owners will not help the drought since, once filled, pools and spas use relatively little water. <u>Any ban</u> on construction or filling of pools will not achieve significant water savings.



The Pool, Spa & Hot Tub Industry is Critical to California's Economy

- The tens of thousands of small business owners and employees and the millions of dollars in economic output makes the pool and spa industry a crucial part of California's economy.
- The industry creates approximately \$75,000 in local economic impact for every new pool.
- Pool construction employs hundreds of local residents, requires permit fees and employee payroll taxes be paid, all contributing to the local economy.
- The industry is comprised of small, local, often minority-owned businesses, and restrictions to the industry directly impact their livelihood.
- The California pool, spa and hot tub industry provides \$5 billion in economic activity to this state each year. In 2020, the industry contributed more than 94,000 local jobs to the California economy. We provide tens of thousands of well-paying jobs and millions in local and state taxes.
- To impose a ban on filling or building pools and spas would mean a significant monetary loss and spike in unemployment. I employ _____ people, all of whom rely on a robust pool and spa industry to make ends meet.
- My business, like so many others in the pool and spa industry, took a big hit during the recession and pandemic. Severe water restrictions on pool builders and our customers could be the final straw for many companies.
- Any restrictions on pool construction or filling could cost local governments millions of dollars in lost building permit fees and taxes.

Pool & Spa Owners Are Doing Their Part to Conserve Water

- Pools, hot tubs and spas, and their surrounding decking, use significantly LESS water than a traditional lawn does.
- Once filled, a pool, decking and cover are about as water efficient as droughtresistant landscaping.



- Even a new pool, which needs to be filled, will use approximately 3,000 gallons *LESS* in its first year than a traditional lawn would use in the same time.
- Pool and spa decks and the "hardscape" that surrounds it often replace most if not all of a backyard's landscaping, further reducing the home's water needs.
- During construction, which can last between 3-5 months, pools and spas require <u>no water</u>. This water savings is often not taken into account and further increases the water-savings of installing a pool and surrounding decking.

Severe Water Restrictions on Pool & Spa Owners are Bad for Public Health

- Pools are a place for kids to participate in a healthy and safe activity at home with their families and neighbors.
- Pools provide much needed health and wellness benefits, from relaxation and stress relief to low-impact cardiovascular fitness and improved sleep.
- Empty or poorly maintained pools can be a literal breeding ground for mosquitoes and West Nile Virus.
- Empty pools are dangerous for small children and pets, who can fall in and severely hurt themselves, and also pose a risk for pop-out, which is when the pressure of groundwater pushes up on the pool floor.



water conservation tips for POOI and Spa Users

Pools and spas are not water wasters! Water is essential for health, recreation and relaxation, so it's vital that water remains abundant and accessible to all. We believe this is possible if all pool and spa users stay informed about water conservation techniques and are willing to make just a few sensible changes in their water consumption habits.

First, a few facts on household water use for bathing or recreation:

- Properly maintained spa water needs to be replaced only two to three times a year and can be reused for landscape watering when drained. In a pool, one filling lasts decades. In fact, draining a pool is so unusual the process usually requires a professional.
- Baths use water once. A spa offers 4 to 6 months of use for the same water. Taking just five baths, at 80 gallons each (normal tub size), uses enough water to fill a typical 400-gallon spa. Filling and draining a bathtub twice a week for four months uses 2,720 gallons of water. A spa uses the same 400 gallons of water continuously throughout those four months.
- A jetted or whirlpool bathtub used twice a week consumes 240 gallons.
 In just 4 months these tubs use about the same amount of water as most pools use in an entire season.
- A properly maintained spa or pool uses significantly less water in a season than watering a lawn of the same size. Watering a typical residential lawn requires 180 gallons each time it's watered. Up to 90 percent of the water used to sprinkle lawns on hot days is lost to evaporation. An untended garden hose can use 600 gallons or more in just a few hours – enough to fill one and a half spas!

How to make the most of your pool and/or spa water:

- 1. **Cover-up!** A properly maintained spa or pool cover is an important safety element and can significantly reduce evaporation and water waste. For pools, a safety cover or a solar cover also has the added benefit of helping to heat the pool. A floating cover under the spa cover will prevent additional evaporation and retain heat. For maximum effectiveness, replace spa covers every three years.
- 2. Be vigilant. Correct any leaks or service problems as they occur. Don't waste water by letting it leak away.

ET'S POOL OGETHER





water conservation tips for POOI and Spa Users

- **3. Maintain your spa.** Proper spa maintenance will greatly increase the time between draining and refilling. Cleaning filters regularly according to manufacturer's directions will extend spa cleanliness.
- 4. Maintain your pool and pool filtration systems.
 - Use an automatic pool cleaner to maintain pool water. Some pool cleaners do not send debris through the filtration system helping to reduce the need to backwash.
 - Proper maintenance of pool water reduces the frequency of backwashing.
 Replace your aging sand or DE filtering system with a cartridge filter that does not require backwashing and saves water.

5. Additional maintenance tips for both pools and spas:

- Remove debris that blows in from trees and landscaping. Low- tech tools are available from your retailer to make it easier to keep water clean.
- Rinse bathing suits out with clear water rather than washing with soap.
 Soap powder residue is a major contributor to poor water quality.
- 6. If it's clean, don't drain! Drain spas and pools only when you have a water quality problem. Water only needs to be changed in a spa 2-3 times a year if you maintain your spa properly and it incorporates new water cleaning technology. Pools only need to be drained if repairs require it.
- 7. Re-use. When you do drain your spa, let it sit open for 48-72 hours with no new chemicals added, and then use the water on garden plants. You can also ask your retailer about products that neutralize chemicals. To prevent unsupervised use, remember to make sure that proper safety barriers are in place any time that the spa safety cover is removed.
- 8. Recycle! Use captured rainwater to replace water lost to evaporation in spas and pools or to refill a spa.
- 9. Upgrade. Spas manufactured in the last five years have new technology cleaning systems that keep the water clean much longer up to six months without refilling. This new technology is also available for some older models. Your spa dealer can advise you whether you can add this technology to your spa.











HOT TUBBERS ARE Water Wise A message to hot tub owners

Owning a Hot Tub is a Smart Water Choice.

Now more than ever it's important to make smart water choices. And enjoying a hot tub is a responsible choice, even during periods of water shortage. When properly cared for, hot tubs use very little water when compared with other everyday household activities, and they provide health and wellness benefits, making them well worth the small water investment. Hot tubs use far less water than lawns and gardens, and it takes less water to fill them than most households use in just one day.

Hot tubs don't waste water.

The typical U.S. household consumes 400 gallons of water each day. The average household loses 10 gallons per day to leaks—that's 3,650 gallons over the course of a year. Standard toilets use 3–5 gallons a flush, and doing laundry can use 20–40 gallons of water per load. In contrast, the typical hot tub holds 400 gallons of water. Because that water can last for four months or longer, hot tub water usage averages out to less than three gallons per day, or just 1% of total household water consumption.

Hot tubs provide health and wellness benefits.

Most people use their hot tub for therapeutic purposes that include relief from achy muscles, chronic pain, arthritis, fibromyalgia, and stress. Instead of soaking in baths or taking extra-long showers for the benefits of warm water therapy, you can save water by using a hot tub instead.

Smart Tips for Water Wise Hot Tub Use

- TOP TIPS
- 1. Reducing showers by just 1 minute per day can more than offset annual hot tub water usage.
- **2.** Maintaining hot tub water properly can greatly increase the time between draining and refilling.
- **3.** Adding a floating blanket between the underside of the cover and the water will also increase savings. The hot tub cover is an important safety feature that also significantly reduces evaporation and water waste.
- **4.** Removing any debris that falls into the spa while the cover is off will keep the water chemistry in balance and reduce the need to drain early.
- **5.** Upgrading to a water care technology that keeps the water cleaner longer can reduce refilling to just once a year.
- **6.** When it does rain, capture the rainwater to replace any water lost due to splashing or evaporation.



An untended garden hose can use 600 gallons or more in just a few hours—enough to fill one and a half hot tubs.

Hot tubs use far less water than lawns and gardens. According to EPA estimates, 60% of household water—58,000 gallons each year—goes for lawn and garden maintenance.

Drained and cooled hot tub water can be used for lawns and landscaping; the chemicals break down within 48 hours and won't harm plants.



Hot tubbing is a responsible, conservative, and smart use of water to treat chronic pain, soothe the body and mind, and relax with loved ones.









California is now in the fourth year of a drought! Here are simple tips for pool, spa and hot tub owners to save water and money!

As a residential swimming pool, spa or hot tub owner, you are already conserving water compared to what a conventional residential backyard uses. That's right! Swimming pools, spas and hot tubs use less water than the same square footage of a lawn...by half! And if you add in the pool deck area that would otherwise be grass, the water saved is multiplied.

There is even more you can do!

Conserve water simply by following the easy tips on the back of this card.





LET'S POOL TOGETHER

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Here are some easy ways for pool, spa and hot tub owners to save water and money!

If you own a pool or in-ground spa:

- 1. Install a pool cover to significantly reduce water evaporation.
- Shut off waterfalls, fountains, and other water features to reduce water loss and evaporation.
- 3. Check the pool for leaks. Contact your pool service professional for guidance.
- 4. Minimize splashing or lower the pool's water level to reduce "splashout."
- 5. Plug the overflow line when the pool is in use.
- 6. Replace sand and DE filters with cartridge filters that do not require backwashing.
- Keep your pool clean to reduce frequency of backwashing.
- 8. If your pool is heated, reduce the water temperature to reduce evaporation.

If you own a hot tub or spa:

- 1. Keep it covered.
- 2. Maintain the chemicals to extend water life.
- 3. Check the equipment for leaks.
- 4. Drain only when absolutely necessary.
- 5. Check with your pool service professional for new technology that helps keep the water clean and reduce the need to drain the spa.
- 6. If you drain your spa, reuse the water to irrigate plants and landscaping.



For more info, visit www.LetsPoolTogether.com

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- 5. Check with your pool service professional for new technology that helps keep the water clean and reduce the need to drain the spa.
- 6. If you drain your spa, reuse the water to irrigate plants and landscaping.





Keep Your Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Water Use Smart this Summer

Pools and spas use half the water a lawn does each day. But that doesn't mean we can't do even more to save water.

- Invest in a pool or spa cover. A cover can help significantly reduce water evaporation from your pool or spa. Check with your local pool supply center or service company for a discounted pool cover.
- Check for leaks. Contact your pool service professional for guidance.
- Shut off waterfalls and fountains to reduce evaporation due to sun exposure.
- Minimize splashing. We all want to have fun in the pool, but excessive splashing will require the pool to be filled more often. You can also lower the water level to reduce "splashout."

(more tips on reverse side)



Keep Your Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Water Use Smart this Summer

- Keep your pool and hot tub clean. Proper use of chemicals and water quality controls reduce the need to drain water and backwash the filter.
- Add chemicals in the evening. The sun quickens the dissipation of chlorine.
- If your pool, spa or hot tub is heated, lower the water temperature to reduce loss to evaporation.
- Reuse backwash or de-chlorinated waste pool water on lawns and shrubs.
- Plug the overflow line when the pool is in use.
- Check your pool's auto fill valve. If it doesn't shut off and the pool has an over fill line, water will be running down the drain!
- Replace sand and DE filter with cartridge filters that do not require backwashing.
- Do not drain your pool unless absolutely necessary!

